

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:  
storing means for storing content data;  
managing means for managing preference data by

which to determine preferences of a user;

reading means for reading said content data from  
said storing means in response to an instruction from  
said user;

sorting means for sorting said content data read by  
said reading means, in accordance with said preference  
data managed by said managing means; and

composing means for composing said content data  
sorted by said sorting means, into a single item ready to  
be handled by said user.

2. An information processing apparatus according  
to claim 1, wherein said managing means determines a  
genre of said content data read by said reading means and  
associates the number of times content data belonging to  
the genre thus determined have been read, with  
information for identifying said user for management  
purposes.

3. An information processing apparatus according  
to claim 1, wherein said content data in effect before  
being composed into said single item by said composing

means include at least information for distinguishing said content data from other content data and information for indicating where said content data are stored in said storing means.

4. An information processing method comprising the steps of:

controlling storage of content data;

managing preference data by which to determine preferences of a user;

reading said content data stored in said storage controlling step, in response to an instruction from said user;

sorting said content data read in said reading step, in accordance with said preference data managed in said managing step; and

composing said content data sorted in said sorting step, into a single item ready to be handled by said user.

5. A storage medium which stores a computer-readable program comprising the steps of:

controlling storage of content data;

managing preference data by which to determine preferences of a user;

reading said content data stored in said storage controlling step, in response to an instruction from said

user;

    sorting said content data read in said reading step,  
in accordance with said preference data managed in said  
managing step; and

    composing said content data sorted in said sorting  
step, into a single item ready to be handled by said user.

6. A program for causing a computer to execute the  
steps of:

    controlling storage of content data;

    managing preference data by which to determine  
preferences of a user;

    reading said content data stored in said storage  
controlling step, in response to an instruction from said  
user;

    sorting said content data read in said reading step,  
in accordance with said preference data managed in said  
managing step; and

    composing said content data sorted in said sorting  
step, into a single item ready to be handled by said user.